

535th AS boosts PACAF airlift capabilities

By **Kirsten Tacker**
Kukini Photojournalist

The 535th Airlift Squadron is one of the total force initiatives being implemented in the United States.

Activated July 18, 2005, they employ the full gamut of C-17 mission capabilities as the first U.S. Air Force C-17 strategic airlift unit outside the Continental United States.

In time, muscled with eight aircraft and 90 active-duty members their missions will cover the globe.

"Our missions span the globe and our aircrew provide world class professional airlift anywhere and everywhere it is needed," said Maj. Dave Almand, 535th AS director of operations.

The unit continues growing. "We will have 90 personnel," said Major Almand. "We'll be close to 100 percent by June. We will do a lot of continuation training here in the Hawaiian Islands."

In preparing themselves for the first aircraft arrival, this newly established crew utilizes interfly resources whenever possible to keep current and proficient.

"We've done interfly agreements with Air Mobility Command, Air Education and Training Command and Guard and Reserve units," said Major Almand. "We've flown with every operational C-17 unit out there except for the British."

In coordination with doing interflies, they've capitalized on loaner C-17's that gave them the ability last year to bring supplies to a hospital in Majuro, Marshall

Islands after parts of the facility were consumed by fire.

"December was the longest we ever had a loaner, but we've done this six times since personnel started arriving," said Major Almand. "Just in December alone we flew 10 flights or 45 hours, with that (more than) 75 currency events were logged."

Examples of currency events are specific actions like take-offs, landings, assault landings or air refueling.

"So when we have this opportunity, we try to maximize all of our aircrews; not only their currency, but also proficiency," said Major Almand. "The challenges you are setting up before you get your aircraft are to keep your pilots and loadmasters proficient so that when the jet gets here in February, they are current and ready."

"That's the challenge of the C-17 pilot," continued Major Almand. "Every C-17 pilot has 20 to 30 currency events. Because the plane is so capable, the aircrews have to be capable also of doing air refueling, air drop, landing on an assault zone or regular runways, flying low level and flying regular instrument approaches in the weather. We have to practice all those events."

While doing all of this training initially with minimal support staff, the foundation was being set on the ground for the inner workings of a new squadron.

"Master Sgt. M. Ray Sneed was the first person in the squadron," said Major Almand. "His specialty is aircrew resource management."



Courtesy photo

Capt. Kimo Lowe, 204th Airlift Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Ken Bragg, 535th Airlift Squadron, unload emergency medical supplies in Majuro after a hospital there was consumed by fire.

"Our primary function is to track and maintain all the training currency," said Sergeant Sneed, aircrew resource management superintendent. "I never knew there was so much involved in standing up a new squadron."

"People in the (15th Airlift Wing) are great," he continued. "I had to rely on a lot of people to help me along the way, so that was awesome. I got all the help I needed."

Input was taken from everyone that joined the squadron, regard-

ing the things they liked and didn't like.

"I didn't have much C-17 experience coming in," said Sergeant Sneed. "So one of the first things I did was to take a site survey on a visit to McChord Air Force Base. I tried to mold everything for what we need for this base."

The first thing Sergeant Sneed did was to build all the training profiles. There were (more than) 1200 training events that had to be input into the system, so he could begin tracking the air-

crew's flying.

"Now we are at the point where we are running through the checklist to try and answer all the questions," said Sergeant Sneed. "We are extremely close to setting up our process."

"The message is we are ready," concluded Major Almand. "We appreciate the support and we will do our part, our crews and our operations are in place. We are going to be busy all over the world and supporting PACOM, there is already a demand for us."

Yummy

Hickam hosts food show, offers new items to Airmen



Right: Staff Sgt. Lorraine Banks, 15th Services Squadron, asks for a slice of cheesecake.

Above: Airman Basic Elyana Soto, 15th Mission Support Squadron, tries pizza.

Left: Hickam members enjoy various foods.

Team Hickam members enjoyed foods from different food vendors at a food show held recently on Hickam. The food was showcased to offer new variations to the Hickam Dining Facility.



Courtesy photo

Crossword Puzzle: Celebrating Black History

By Capt. Tony Wickman
71 Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

ACROSS

- 1. Simpson trial judge
- 4. Stroke
- 7.African-American botanist, agricultural chemist, educator
- 10. Ciliate
- 14. Complied
- 15. American slave leader Nat
- 16. Age
- 17. Boardinghouse
- 18. Country _____; Grammy Artist Nelly's first album
- 22. Carter G. ____; known as “Father of Black History”
- 26. TV character Monk's illness, in short
- 27. Bother
- 28. Football stat
- 29. Bullfight cheer
- 30. Bonnet denizen?
- 31. Discounts
- 33. Mil. confidential disclosure statement
- 34. German article
- 35. Japanese sash
- 38. First African-American woman sheriff (Fulton Co., GA)
- 42. HHG movement org.
- 45. Grammy-winning rap group ____ DMC

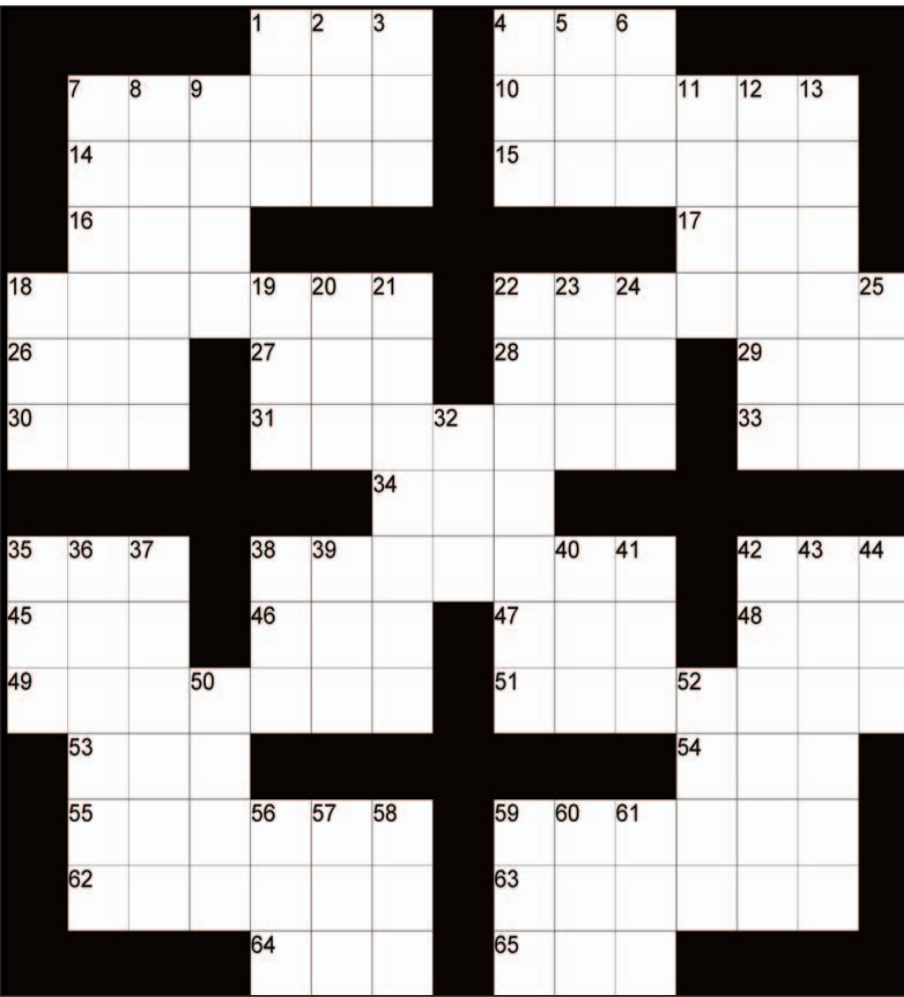
- 46. Tolkien character
- 47. Body of water
- 48. North-central North Carolina river
- 49. Finales
- 51. Valved brass wind instruments
- 53. Spy org.
- 54. Actress Dolenz
- 55. Mortals
- 59. African-American Underground Railroad conductor Harriet
- 62. Fertilized egg
- 63. Brightly colored marine fish
- 64. Knee ligament, in short
- 65. Picnic pest

DOWN

- 1. ____ League
- 2. Golf prop
- 3. Former California fort
- 4. Tap lightly
- 5. Flightless bird
- 6. Rocky cliff
- 7. Force
- 8. Chafe
- 9. Bore
- 11. Home to Vance AFB
- 12. Liberian president Stephen ____ (1855)
- 13. Tennessee AFB
- 18. Lump
- 19. Damage
- 20. Sweetened beverage
- 21. First African-American

- woman Cabinet member Patricia__ Harris
- 22. 1985 Ford movie
- 23. Unity
- 24. USAF commissioning source
- 25. Public education labor union, in short
- 32. Demeanor
- 35. Mining goal
- 36. First African-American Nobel Peace Prize winner
- 37. Element IN
- 38. African-American Grammy-nominated artist Harper
- 39. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon director Lee
- 40. Afternoon beverage
- 41. Levy
- 42. African-American Supreme Court justice Clarence
- 43. POTUS helicopter ____ One
- 44. Possess
- 50. Stressed syllable
- 52. Overacting performer
- 56. Appendage
- 57. The Big Apple, in short
- 58. Resort area Costa del ____
- 59. Orig. air carrier
- 60. Vase
- 61. Baseball item

See **SOLUTIONS, B4**





New classes at arts and crafts center

The center offers new classes:
Basket weaving: Learn how to weave lovely baskets. Baskets make great gifts and are a beautiful way to store and display items.
Beaded jewelry: This is the newest rage. Show off the latest fashions in jewelry design without spending a bundle.
Sewing classes: Enjoy a variety of basic sewing classes for youth and adults.
For the dates of these classes, call the arts and crafts center 449-1568.

Physical training at pool #2

Wednesday and Friday through Feb. 28, 7 to 7:45 a.m. The cost is \$15 per person each day. Advanced swimming skills and techniques for adults. Improve stroke development and technique. Reservations are required at least 24 hours prior to event.

Tailgate Sales

Saturday and Feb. 18, 7 to 10 a.m. in the

Burger King parking lot. Have a ton of extra items just taking up space in the house? This is the chance to make some money and clear out the clutter too. End stalls: \$11, all other stalls are \$8. Reserve a space by calling the community center 449-2361.

Heart healthy spin classes

February is American Heart Month. Celebrate a healthy heart Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All month long, the Tuesday and Thursday spin classes will be extended to 75 minutes long held at the health and wellness center.

Valentines surprise

Surprise someone special by sending them a special delivery of balloons, candies, and a valentine treat for just \$15. The community center elves will deliver there Feb. 14 between 9 a.m. and noon. Order one by Feb. 10 by calling the community center 449-2361

Band of Brothers

Wednesday 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Community Center: Q & A session followed by autographs. 4 to 5 p.m.: Hale Aina Dining Facility: handshake and sit down with Airmen.

Wai'anae Kai hike

Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost of \$20 per person includes transportation and two guides. Bring hiking shoes, lunch, hat and

sunscreen. Call outdoor recreation at 449-5215.



Valentine's Day special

Tuesday, February 14th, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For every couple that bowls together, the lady receives a special Valentine's Day gift and bowls for \$1 per game. Call the bowling center at 449-2702.

Valentine's sweetheart gourmet dinner - enlisted club

Feb. 14, 6 to 8:30 p.m. \$27 per person with a \$2 Members First Discount. Advanced tickets required. Call the enlisted club at 448-2271.

Scrapbook Night

Feb. 16, 5:00 to 9:30 p.m.: Door prizes, pupus, and special discounts throughout the night. Bring the name of a famous person whose birthday is Feb.16 and get an additional discount. See the latest products from

the Craft and Hobby Association of America Trade Show.

48th Annual Hickam Carnival - Earhart Village at Area 61

Feb. 17, 5 to 11:30 p.m.; Feb. 18, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Feb. 19, noon to 10 p.m.. Pre-event tickets on sale Feb. 6 to 16, at Services facilities and the base exchange and commissary. Call the community center at 449-2361.

Windsurfing lessons

Feb. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$75 per person includes two day of instructions and all rental equipment; held at Hickam Harbor. Minimum of three to a maximum of ten participants per class.

Snorkeling in Hanauma Bay

Feb. 18, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. \$25 per person includes transportation and two guides. This is a favorite location for tourists and locals alike. Please bring swimsuit, towel, water, lunch, sunscreen and snorkel gear.

Officers' Club dinner theater - "Cats"

Reserve a space now for dinner and a night at the theater with the Officers' Club Feb. 25. The cost of \$50 per person includes a three-course dinner, transportation to and from the production. For more information or to make reservations, call 448-4608.

USO BAND OF BROTHERS ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT

Don Malarkey Buck Compton

Earl McClung Darrell "Shifty" Powers

JAMES MADDO "Frank Perconte" PETER YOUNGBLOOD HILLS "Darrell "Shifty" Powers" MATTHEW SETTLE "Ronald Spiers" EION BAILEY "David Kenyon Webster"

Band of Brothers "Actors" and "Real Life Veterans" Coming to Hickam AFB • 8 February 2006

1430 - 1530: Q & A Session followed by Autographs • Community Center, Bldg. 1859

1600 - 1700: Handshake & Sitdown w/Airmen • Hale Aina Dining Facility

USO Sponsors

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An Entertainment Feature presented by the Armed Forces (DA) and OSD in cooperation with your local Warff, Wallers and Recreation Office. The acceptance of corporate sponsorship of this DA/OSD tour does not constitute endorsement of the sponsor's product or services by the Department of Defense or the U.S. Armed Forces.

BELLOWS AIR FORCE STATION

SUPER BOWL XL PARTY EXTRAVAGANZA February 5th, 12 - 5 p.m. On the Lanai

All you can eat Buffet!!! Beverage Included!!!

Buffet Cost (by body weight)

Over 100lbs	\$10
60-99 lbs	\$6
Under 60lbs	\$1

BBQ Pork Ribs	Fried Chicken
Fried Shrimp	Hamburgers
Hot Dogs	Potato Salad
Chili	Rice
Toss Greens	Coleslaw

Also, complete Nacho Bar with all the trimmings

GO TEAM!

AT THE MOVIES

Memorial Theater 448-2297 • CLOSED Monday and Tuesday

Today and Saturday 7 p.m.

King Kong – While filming on location at the mysterious Skull Island (near Sumatra) a group of filmmakers discover a giant gorilla named Kong, living in a massive jungle where creatures from prehistoric times have been protected and hid-den for millions of years.

As they search for the great ape, their quest puts them up against both Kong and his dinosaur enemies. Ultimately, it is the attention of a beautiful human woman that soothes Kong long enough for him to be subdued and shipped back to New York, where his bleak future involves being put on display in front of humans ... but how long can even the mightiest shackles of man hold back an ape 25 feet tall? Starring: Naomi Watts, Adrien Brody. Rated PG-13 for frightening adventure vio-lence and some disturbing images

Saturday 2 p.m. and Thursday 7 p.m.

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 – Tom and wife Kate, hoping to bring their family together for a memorable summer vacation, take their 12 offspring to the rustic Lake Winnetka.

But their retreat, soon becomes cutthroat when they enter into a competition with the over-achieving members of a large family headed by Tom's long-time rival, Jimmy Muraugh.

Starring: Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt. Rated PG for some crude humor and mild lan-guage

Sunday and Wednesday 7 p.m.

Rumor Has It – Sarah's life is in a tailspin. She's finally agreed to marry her boyfriend Jeff, but isn't at all sure that marriage is what she really wants-in fact, she's not sure what she wants in general.

As conflicted as she is about her love life, her professional life isn't much better-an aspiring journalist, Sarah's career has stalled at the New York Times obituary column. Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Kevin Costner. Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material, sexual content, crude humor and drug reference



Airman 1st Class Tracy Romine

352nd Information Operations Squadron

The 352nd IOS unit rocks because: being a small tenant unit we are close knit, like a family. The Firebirds might be small compared to others, but we make a point of standing out at Hickam by being involved in everything including sports, volunteering in the community and work-place excellence.

My job affects all of Hickam in that: My job affects not just Hickam, but all of the Pacific Theater. This is an Intel unit all about operations security. We monitor unsecured telephone and email transmi-tions for sensitive unclassified and classi-fied information.

When not at work, I spend my off duty time: Off duty I like to take it easy, maybe go to the movies or take advantage of the wonderful beaches here on Oahu.

Something people don't know about the 352nd IOS: Something people don't know is our location. The 352nd IOS is located in the “boondocks” at the edge of base. Ever wonder what that building is past the Auto Hobby Shop or right by the back gate? That's us, Bldg 4071.

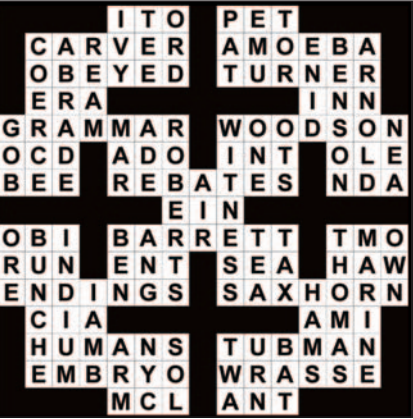
If I could change one thing about Hickam, it would be: This is my first duty station and I don't think that I could be in a better spot. The dining facility is



great and there are a variety of foods, but since Hickam is very health conscious, the dining facility could offer a larger variety of healthier foods.

What her supervisor has to say: Airman Romine is the life of the office. She is always upbeat and energetic. She possesses a light attitude that brightens the entire operations floor and squadron.

SOLUTIONS, From B2



CHAPEL

Editor's note: For more information on Base Chapel services or for prayer requests call the Chapel Center at 449-1754 or Nelles Chapel at 449-6562.

PROTESTANT

Nelles Chapel
Sunday Contemporary
Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Worship
11:15 a.m.
Sunday Praise Gathering
5:30 p.m.
Chapel Center
Sunday Traditional
8:30 a.m.

JEWISH

Aloha Jewish Chapel,
Pearl Harbor
473-0050
Jewish Lay Leader
Mr. David Bender
527-5877
Naval Station Chapel
473-3971

CATHOLIC

Nelles Chapel
Weekday Mass
11:30 a.m.
Saturday Confessions
4:15 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Chapel Center
Sunday Mass 10 a.m.

ISLAMIC

Friday Congregational
Service
(1935 Aleo Place,
Punahou)
1 p.m.
Muslim Association
of Hawaii
947-6263

BUDDHIST

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii
Betsuin A Shin
Buddhist Temple
536-7044

ORTHODOX

For more information,
call 438-6687

Team Hickam preps for Great Aloha Run



Far right: (left to right) Brad and Amanda Green pushing Natalie and Payton Green, and Saundra Taylor pushing Everett and Abby Taylor, run during the Saturday morning run. The group meets every Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in front of the fitness center to prepare for the Great Aloha Run.

Above: Several Hickam members start out their run Saturday. All of Team Hickam is invited to come run in preparation for the Great Aloha Run.

Right: Susanne Orth and Paula Boerwinkle stretch before running with the group of runners.



Photos by Mark Bates